



All-Party Parliamentary Group for American Football

Ordinary Meeting Minutes

1800, 1 April 2019, Committee Room 19

Meeting commenced 1808

In attendance

Members: Peter Bone MP (in the chair); Chris Stephens MP; Gavin Newlands MP; Lord Taylor of Warwick

Organisational Associate Members: Tom Jones and Francois Clement (Populous); Liam Bird (Level Playing Field); Nichole McCulloch (BAFA)

Clubs/Teams: Ian Miles (Kent Pheonix)

Individual Associate Members (all, no affiliation): Carl Dalby; Ian Barnsby; Roger Smithies; Andrew Phillips

Secretariat: Mark Ramsdale

Other: Daniel Stow (Member's Staff)

Welcome

The Chair welcomed all in attendance to the meeting.

Apologies

Members:

Organisational Associate Members:

Individual Associate Members:

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were considered an accurate account.

Matters arising

Correspondence

The Group received a request for support from the Great Britain U19 American Football team, who were looking to raise funds to support 2019 fixtures against France and Norway, and potentially also the European Championships in Italy, if they qualify. **Suggested action: Group to draft press release to encourage support for the team.**

Delivered by:



Group Activity Report

Parliamentary

At DCMS Questions the Chair raised the four American football games that would be played in the United Kingdom in 2019, two at Wembley and two at the new Tottenham Hotspur ground, and asked whether it would be better if there was a permanent franchise. The Sports Minister welcomed the games and said that she hoped to attend.

In a debate on sport in the UK in the House of Commons, Gavin Newlands MP referenced the Superbowl, and thanked Renfrewshire Raptors, a Flag American Football team in his constituency, for hosting a Superbowl party.

In the same debate, Chris Bryant MP discussed concussion in sport and made reference to concussion rates in American football.

In a debate on the Mental Capacity Bill, Chris Bryant MP again raised American football when discussing concussion in sport.

Public

- The Chairman and Secretariat met with NFL UK CEO Alistair Kirkwood to discuss various matters on how the Group can support the NFL and the sport
- The Secretariat spoke with the new Chairman of BAFA on the role of the Group, its operation and how the Group and BAFA can work together and support the sport in the UK.
- The Chairman met with NFL Vice President Mark Waller on the Group, who was positive.

The Group issued press releases on:

- The last meeting with NFL UK;
- The first ever Parliamentary questions on American football in the House of Lords.

The Secretariat reminded the meeting that the Group had a twitter account, @ParliamentAFG.

AOB

Chairman proposed Richard Fuller become Honorary President. Delighted to accepted.

Presentation: Populous

The Chair welcomed Tom Jones and Francois Clement from Populous.

Meeting closed at 1901